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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 PC-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00
OPIC-03 IGA-02 XMB-02 /093 W
----------181806Z 001319 /43
R 172110Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1002

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2964

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, EINV DR, US
SUBJECT: PENA GOMEZ SLIPS ON NATIONALIZATION

1. JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ, SECRETARY GENERAL OF MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY, THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DOMINICANO (PRD), DECLARED ON JUNE 12 THAT HIS PARTY WOULD NATIONALIZE COMPLETELY OR PARTIALLY ALL MULTINATIONAL FIRMS OPERATING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THE REMARKS WERE MADE DURING AN ORGANIZING MEETING AT A PRD BRANCH IN THE RURAL TOWN OF MONTE PLATA. PENA GOMEZ, APPARENTLY CARRIED AWAY BY THE ENTHUSIASM OF THE CROWD, CALLED FOR COMPLETE NATIONALIZATION OF ROSARIO (GOLD MINING) AND 50 PERCENT NATIONALIZATION OF CENTRAL ROMANA (SUGAR AND CATTLE SUBSIDIARY OF GULF AND WESTERN), ALCOA EXPLORATION CORP. AND FALCONBRIDGE (FERRO NICKEL MINING AND SMELTING).

2. PENA'S STATEMENT WAS NOT AUTHORIZED BY THE PRD AND IS OUT OF STEP WITH THE EVOLVING PRD POSITION ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT. IT CAUGHT OTHER PRD LEADERS BY SURPRISE AND CAUSED SOME CONSTERNATION. THE STATEMENT WENT EVEN BEYOND THE HARD LINE TAKEN BY THE PRD IN ITS 1974 ELECTION PLATFORM AND DID NOT REFLECT ANY OF THE SLOW MOVEMENT OF THE PARTY AWAY FROM THE RADICAL RHETORIC OF THAT CAMPAIGN. THE PRD IS AT THIS TIME
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IN THE PROCESS OF RE-THINKING ITS POLICY TOWARD FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE LEADERS WILL INSIST ON A MORE PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT, REALISTICALLY EXAMINING THE ALTER-NATIVES FOR THE COUNTRY IN ITS SEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY. SEVERAL PARTY LEADERS HAVE TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT THEY EXPECT THE PARTY TO IDENTIFY

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CLEARLY THE SECTORS WHICH WOULD BE OPEN TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT
AND THOSE RESERVED FOR DOMINICAN CAPITAL, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC.

3. PENA PAID PERSONAL VISITS TO SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS TO ASK
THAT HIS REMARKS NOT BE PRINTED. "EL NACIONAL" DIRECTOR
MOLINA MORILLO REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUEST AND PRINTED
THEM ON JUNE 16. SEVERAL PRD LEADERS ARE TO MEET WITH PENA
TO HEAR HIS EXPLANATION FOR THE DEPARTURE FROM THE PARTY'S
POLICY LINE.
AXELROD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, NATIONALIZATION, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANTO02964
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770218-1155
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770645/aaaabney.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2111542
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PENA GOMEZ SLIPS ON NATIONALIZATION
TAGS: PINT, EINV, DR, US, PRD, (PENA GOMEZ, JOSE FRANCISCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70fafb7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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